PRIORITY

SECRET
(Security Classification)

DO NOT TYPE IN THIS SPACE
662.0026/7-1255

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM : [redacted] COPY NO. 1

DESP. NO. 24

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON

DATE 12 July 1955

REF : Deptel June 9, 1955 sent Bonn 3444 rptd Berlin 628;
Dept's Instruction CA-8436 June 2, 1955

JUL 13 1955

AV For Dept. Use Only	ACTION EUR	DEPT. Rm/R S/S G S/P C L R P 3 7
	REC'D 7/18	INFO OTHER

SUBJECT: Plea for Release of Admiral Raeder

There is enclosed for the Department's information a translation of an editorial appearing in the independent, conservative Berlin daily Tagesspiegel July 10, 1955 calling for the release of former Grand Admiral RAEDER, one of the major war criminals interned in Spandau.

The Tagesspiegel has made several appeals on behalf of Raeder and former Admiral DOENITZ in the past.

Charles H Owsley
Charles H. Owsley
Chief
Political Affairs Division

662.0026/7-1255

Enclosure:
1/ Translation of Newspaper Editorial

Distribution:
Bonn

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [redacted] DATE MAR 1 6 1983
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS
DECLASSIFIED / RELEASABLE
RELEASE DENIED
PA or FOI EXEMPTION

1955 JUL 29 PM 1

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OFFICE OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

Copy No(s). 8

Destroyed in RM/R

Name [redacted] Date 8/9/55

SECRET FILE

LW CLED

JBH
ISS
112
TGB
GW

TDMcKiernan/mbw

SECRET

ACTION COPY—DEPARTMENT OF STATE

This office should return the permanent record copy to DC/R files with an endorsement of action taken.

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~
~~SECRET~~
(Classification)

Translation

Editorial Appearing in Berlin Tagesspiegel July 10, 1955

Public opinion, silent on the subject of releasing ex-Admiral Doenitz, who completed his turn in Spandau Prison a month ago, if one includes his Nuremberg Trial detention, is also mute on the public appeals for exempting Grand Admiral Erich Raeder (now almost eighty year old) from further detention.

We have had ample demonstration in the past that the ground for his conviction, the German naval operation against Norway, has become null and void, since Germany's former enemies and historians as well admit that the German invasion preceded a like operation of the Allies only by a few hours. Thus the accusations against Raeder have lost their legal basis, and his release would not be an act of clemency.

The firm basis of this reminder is the fact that additional long-winded deliberations -- we do not know if such are in progress -- are hardly appropriate in view of Raeder's bad health. If a legally founded, humanitarian release is to be effected, prompt decision is called for.

UNCLASSIFIED